



Long Valley Fire Protection District
3605 Crowley Lake Drive • Crowley Lake • California 93546
760.935.4545 / 760.935.4436 (facsimile)
longvalleyfd@gmail.com

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
January 8th, 2025

Date: Wednesday, January 8th, 2025

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, CA 93546

Members Present: Lorinda Beatty, Ron Day, Kim Czeschin, Dan Gordon, David Melchior

Members Absent: none

Others Present: Fire Chief Scott McGuire, Division Chief Fred Stump, Secretary Kathryn Durgin (via Google Meet), Billy Czeschin, Rich Booher, Becky Davis

Others Absent: None

1. Call to order, roll call, Pledge of Allegiance, and announcements. The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm. Commissioner Day led all in attendance to the Pledge of Allegiance. No announcements were made.
2. Opportunity for the public to address the Board on items of interest to the public that are not agendaized and within the jurisdiction of the Board. Division Chief Fred Stump announced that former Long Valley Fire Chief Vincent Maniaci is in the area and he wanted to thank everyone for their support on his recovery from having a stroke. Fred further shared that Vince wanted to give everyone his best wishes as he continues rehabilitation.
3. Report and provide direction on the progress of the Sunny Slopes Station 2 project. Commissioner Beatty opened the discussion with staff reports followed by public comment. Chief McGuire reported that he, Fred Stump, and Gerry LeFrancios met with R.O. Anderson to review the initial site plan. Chief McGuire shared that they discussed topography, lot lines, and layout, ultimately deciding against a pull-through bay due to elevation changes at the back of the station. Instead, engines will back in from the street. Chief McGuire further shared that R.O. Anderson is expected to finalize the site plan in the coming weeks, allowing the department to begin the conditional use permit process.

Fred Stump added that they reconsidered a landscaping feature at the front of the station due to cost and snow removal concerns. Fred shared that they also discussed

adding rear doors with gravel and stairs for easier material transport. Lastly, Fred stated that R.O. Anderson has now received the proposed layout and Southern California Edison's formalized proposal.

Chief McGuire also shared that county staff are working with Long Valley Fire to request federal funding. He emphasized prioritizing funds for constructing Station 2 before requesting additional equipment. According to Chief McGuire, the estimated cost for Station 2 is approximately \$4 million, with the total budget, including necessary facilities, reaching \$4.7 million. He noted that if federal funds are granted, the department would need to cover 25% of the cost. Chief shared regarding the timeline of the project stating that once the site plan is complete next steps include submitting it to the county, determining CEQA costs, and proceeding with the permit process.

Sunny Slopes resident Becky Davis requested a copy of the budget, which Chief McGuire agreed to provide. No other comments were made.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the December 11th, 2024 Regular Meeting. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DAY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GORDON, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 11TH, 2024 REGULAR MEETING. Motion passed 5-0.
5. Chief's Report.
 - A. Volunteer Report. Chief McGuire updated the Board on department activities, reporting nine calls since the last meeting, with an expected drop in volunteer response due to the holiday season. He shared details on one notable call involving an armed individual and a hostage situation. Chief McGuire reported that volunteer trainings had paused for the holidays but will resume tomorrow with a focus on ladders, followed by avalanche rescue next week and EMR training next month. He also mentioned a scheduled California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) meeting in Bishop, though it may be postponed as Mono County has deployed a strike team to assist with the Hurst Fire in Los Angeles. Chief McGuire explained the role of a strike team and provided details on the districts involved as well as the ongoing destruction caused by the fires in southern California.
 - B. Report on Current Fire Department Activities, Assignments, and Schedule for potential Board direction. Chief McGuire reported that the application for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) has been submitted. Chief McGuire shared that he is also preparing an Office of Traffic and Safety (OTS) grant, with plans to submit it by the end of the month. He added that the Long Valley Fire website is currently being updated to ensure ADA compliance. He presented a document from John Kokado, who is managing the updates, for the Board's review. The document outlines the Website Accessibility Policy.
 - C. Long-Range Planning Discussion.
 - a. Personnel. No news.

- b. Airport. Chief McGuire reported on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Airport and the Town of Mammoth Lakes, noting that the Town submitted its final version today. According to Chief McGuire, the only addition to the MOU states that the Town will cover any mitigation fees to the county as outlined in the 2003 agreement or any subsequent updates. Additionally, he shared that the Town of Mammoth Lakes has requested the MOU not be included in their consent agenda but instead have Chief McGuire present it at the Town Council meeting on February 5th.
 - c. Geothermal. No news.
 - d. Station Maintenance. Chief McGuire reported an issue with the compressor that caused electrical problems, which led to the discovery of additional issues. He is currently making necessary upgrades to the breakers, as they are about to go out.
 - e. Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance. Billy Czeschin shared that parts for the compressor have been ordered to get it repaired.
 - f. County and Community Updates. No news.
6. Board review/approval of payment warrants since the last meeting. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DAY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GORDON TO APPROVE PAYMENT WARRANTS SINCE LAST REGULAR BOARD MEETING. Motion passed 5-0.
7. Discussion and action regarding AirMed membership for the department. Chief McGuire provided details on the AirMed membership for the department. He shared that, based on a census of 27 members, the base level membership costs \$75 per person, with the option to upgrade to a higher level for an additional \$295 per person. Members can choose to upgrade at their own expense, paying the difference. He shared that the cost of the membership falls under the discretion of the Fire Chief and will be covered by budget line item #104 Firefighters. He also noted that the total cost could fluctuate by up to \$150 depending on the number of active volunteers at the time the membership is purchased. He confirmed that the membership will be purchased for currently active volunteer firefighters in good standing. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GORDON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DAY, TO ALLOW THE CHIEF TO PURCHASE THE AIRMED MEMBERSHIP FOR THE DEPARTMENT. Motion passed 5-0.
8. Discussion and possible action concerning the dedication of a portion of Highway 395 to former Captain Vidar Anderson. Division Chief Fred Stump provided an update on the dedication, sharing that Zoom or phone interviews are scheduled with California State Senator Alvarado-Gil at the end of the month. According to Fred, he and Hap Hazard will participate in a Zoom interview, Rick Turner will have a phone interview, and Supervisor Duggan plans to meet with the Senator in Sacramento either this week or

next. Fred also mentioned that the Forest Service was contacted and confirmed they don't need to be involved unless Vidar Anderson was one of their personnel, so no further action is needed. Additionally, Fred reported that Vidar Anderson's daughter-in-law, Julie Reid, has been included in the email communications regarding the dedication. Fred expressed hope that these interactions will persuade the State Senator to move forward with the legislation needed for the dedication to be made.

9. Discussion and action on refurbishment of the Memorial Garden. Chief McGuire reported that he met with Delfino Leguna, who is working on sketches for the Memorial Garden. Chief noted an idea Delfino proposed was to round the edges of the garden and create a seating area. Chief McGuire hopes to present some sketches for the Board to review at the next regular meeting.
10. Board Secretary Report. Secretary Durgin provided updates on various activities since the last meeting. She reported that the Quarterly Tax Reports for Q4 2024 have been submitted, and W-2s will be mailed out either this week or next. She also followed up with Shannon LeGrand from county finance after the December meeting regarding the payout for the Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) per the Mono County and Long Valley Fire agreement. According to Durgin, Shannon LeGrand responded that she would check with Janet Dutcher and provide an update once she receives more information. Durgin reached out again today, and Shannon confirmed she has not yet heard from Janet but will notify her as soon as she does.

Lastly, Secretary Durgin reported regarding the current Fechter Financial Audit that the department is undergoing, which includes a review of the Fixed Asset and Depreciation Schedule. Secretary Durgin and Chief McGuire have been reviewing the schedule and identified several items that need to be updated. She noted additions to the list include the Hurst tools received from the Gary Sinise Foundation and department vehicles that are not currently listed. Items that may need removal include SCBA bottles that do not meet the \$5,000 fixed asset threshold. Additionally, she shared that some items are categorized as "Equipment" without clear descriptions. Given these items are fully depreciated, she stated that the department may either try to identify them or remove them from the list.

Chief McGuire commented that the auditor's review focuses on the depreciation schedule, which includes items that have already been fully depreciated. He clarified that while these items no longer depreciate, they remain assets to the department and should still be listed. He noted based upon his understanding from the auditor that the department has some discretion in determining the lifespan of assets and suggested aligning the depreciation schedule with NFPA standards. He recommended updating the list to include both items currently being depreciated for tax purposes as well as a full asset list of all items meeting the \$5,000 threshold, even if fully depreciated, to reflect their value to the department. He also suggested listing asset values based on their insured amounts. Secretary Durgin emphasized the importance of providing clear item descriptions so future personnel can easily identify and track them. Chief McGuire added that all qualifying items should include a serial or identification number.

Secretary Durgin closed by stating that the auditor has extended the deadline for any changes to the fixed asset depreciation schedule until February's regular meeting. Commissioner Beatty stated that the Board does not need to take action on these updates, as the Fire Chief has the authority to make necessary changes to the listing. Commissioner Beatty commented that once the final audit is complete, the Board of Commissioners will review and take action accordingly. The Board discussed items labeled as "Equipment." Commissioner Beatty suggested asking the auditor to include a financial note acknowledging that these items are unclear as well as stating that moving forward, all listed assets will be identified and valued. No further comments were made.

11. Review correspondence received since the last regular meeting. All correspondence was included in prior agenda item reports.
12. Review and adjust current fiscal year budget line items as necessary and accept. Chief McGuire reported that looking at the budget there is no need for changes at this time.
13. New business and Board member reports. Chief McGuire informed the Board that Long Valley Fire Chaplain Paul Zastoupil has been very sick since Thanksgiving. He shared that Paul is currently unavailable and asked the department to send thoughts and prayers his way.
14. Call for Agenda items for the next regular meeting. Staff report on the progress of the Sunny Slopes Station 2 project; Discussion and action on refurbishment of the Memorial Garden; Discussion and possible action concerning the dedication of a portion of Highway 395 to former Captain Vidar Anderson.
15. Adjournment. A motion was made by Commissioner Melchior, seconded by Commissioner Czeschin, to adjourn the meeting and reconvene in regular session on February 12th, 2025, at 7:00pm at the Long Valley Fire Station, 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, California. Motion passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Katie Durgin
Secretary to the Board
Long Valley Fire Protection District